

September 1992

In this issue:

*Minority Marrow Donors Needed
Medicine for the Public Begins
Margaret Gierszewski Retires
Poster Day 1992 a Success*

Clinical Center News

Summer Aides Arrive (and Stay) in Record Numbers

A record number of high school students participated in this year's Special Summer Aides Program. "We've never had more than 10 students," says Ellen Williams, EEO specialist and coordinator of the program, "but this year, we had 30!" Of these, 15 students will remain this September in the Stay-In-School Program.

Williams attributes these successes to a new recruiting procedure. "Each student is assigned to a mentor," she explains. "We asked this year's mentors what skills they were looking for, and we recruited students who had those skills or interests." The students had competition too; of 60 interviewed, only half were selected.

Students worked in almost all departments of the Clinical Center. The program is designed to meet genuine summer staffing needs by giving students hands-on experience in an office setting. At the request of mentors, classroom training time was reduced this year to give students more time and experience on the job.

The emphasis on office skills is a program strength, says Sonya

Friend, a two-year veteran of the program. "I'd never worked on a Macintosh IIci before, but now I've got it down pat!" The skills she's learned will help her pursue her goal of a degree in public administration, she says. Ana Chicas, a first-time aide, says she enjoyed her summer so much she wants to return next year. "It was a

great experience, and fun too. I would like to thank Ms. Williams, Mr. [Ogden] Lacy, and Bettye Wages, my supervisor, for giving me this opportunity," she says.

The program is open to financially disadvantaged high school students, but college

SUMMER continued on page 2



1992 Summer Aides. (l to r). *Back row:* Sabrina Long, William Johnson, Ganait Harris, Patrice Davis, Ayodele Houston, Thomas Lewis, Sahr Bockai, Domiento Hill, Hamid Nowrovzi. *Next row:* Shelia Gallman, Lakisha Whitley, Stephanie Larkins, Erica Wilson, Oji Abbot, Tiffany Jackson, Sonya Friend, Tamala McCrea, Loan Nguyen. *Next row:* Cornelia Standback, Dante Melton, Barbara Jones, Tarnzetta Adams, Ana Chicas, Nakia Wayns, Lawanda Wells, Stephanie Horne, Angelique Birckett, Loan Bui. *Foreground:* Ellen Williams, Robert Williams. *Not pictured:* Charles Pham, Joseph Namgoong.

A Note of Thanks

At the summer aides orientation, the following employees were recognized with certificates and flowers for their past dedication to this program: Karen Pascal, Kathy Richardson, Ola Hobson, and Johnnell Branch.

students may be considered if not enough high schoolers are recruited. If you would like to participate in next year's program, contact the EEO Office at 496-1584 for details. ■

Letter of Appreciation

I just wanted to thank you for accepting my husband Rex to NIH for evaluation of his myelodysplasia. As you know, events went against our expectations, and Rex died there on Mar. 17, 1992. We are still very sad over our loss, but I wanted you to know how much we appreciated the skill, understanding, and compassion with which we were treated while at the Clinical Center. Rex was treated by many fine doctors, nurses, and technicians over the years, but never have I been around so many excellent people in one place. Not only did Rex receive the best of care, but also my children, sister, and I were treated with the utmost respect, empathy, and kindness.

Patient Honors Employee Mary Lewis

Clinical Center employee Mary Lewis, who operates elevator number 1, was recognized in a personal way by Rosalie Gilbert, a patient. Gilbert wrote the following poem in appreciation of Lewis' good nature and helpfulness as she does her daily work.

Angel Express

Just call ahead--it's always there
When the door opens, there's *God's Angel*
with a big smile, many kind words
and ready to take you where you
need to go.
Feels like we are on a trip
between Heaven and Earth
This Angel Express is our special elevator
filled with Love and Blessings for all

Thank God for Angels.



CC News

Editor: Susan P. Kendall

Clinical Center News is published monthly by the Office of Clinical Center Communications, Colleen Henrichsen, chief, for employees of the Clinical Center, National Institutes of Health, Department of Health and Human Services.

News, article ideas, calendar events, letters and photographs are encouraged and can be submitted to Bldg. 10, room 1C255, or by calling 496-2563.

Deadline for submission is the second Monday of each month.

Sincerely,
Carol A. Story

Marrow Donor Center Recruits Minorities

A recent article about the NIH Marrow Donor Center (MDC) (July 1992, *CC News*) appealed for minority donors. The scarcity of donations by certain minority groups precludes many patients from finding a "miracle match." To aid minority recruitment efforts, the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute has given the MDC a substantial grant. Says Gail Carter, manager of the MDC, "Ideally, we'd like to recruit 5,000 potential donors over a 20-month period. We plan to concentrate our efforts on recruiting African-American donors throughout the Mid-Atlantic region." Currently, statistics from the National Marrow Donor Program state that only 4 percent of volunteer donors are African-American, which gravely reduces the chance of finding a compatible donor for any African-American patient.

Recruiting will be done through personal contact with community leaders rather than through mass media campaigns. "We've found that the grass-roots approach seems to work best," says Carter. The grant is one of seven awarded nationwide to target different underrepresented groups.

The MDC currently has 26,000 potential donors on file. Fifty-five of these have been miracle matches. For more information on becoming a marrow donor, call the MDC at 496-0572, or the National Marrow Donor Program at 1-800-654-1247. ■

Asian Marrow Donors Urgently Needed

The 18-year-old nephew of Clinical Center employee Winnie To is searching for a bone marrow donor. Andrew Yuen, a student at the University of Maryland, is fighting leukemia. A search of the National Marrow Donor Registry did not produce a match, in part because less than 5 percent of volunteer donors registered are Asian. A bone

marrow drive targeting the Asian community will be held on **Sunday, Sept. 27, from 12:30 to 3:30** at the Chinese Bible Church of Maryland, 4414 Muncaster Mill Road, Rockville, MD. If you'd like to participate but can't come to the drive, contact the NIH Marrow Donor Center at 301-496-0572. You might be Andy's "miracle match."

Medicine for the Public Lecture Series Begins October 13

Mark your calendars for this year's *Medicine for the Public* lecture series. Now in its 16th season, this popular series features NIH physician-scientists working at the frontiers of medical research. The lectures help people understand the latest developments in medicine — new therapies, diagnostic procedures, and research.

This year's series opens on Oct. 13 with a look at "Ovarian Cancer: Current Treatment Options." Dr. Eddie Reed, head of the medical ovarian section of the Medicine Branch, NCI, will discuss the incidence of this disease and its various stages, as well as how it is diagnosed and

treated, including surgery and the new drug taxol.

Dr. Florence Haseltine steps up to the mike on Oct. 20, talking about "Menopause." As millions more women reach their forties, the interest surrounding menopause has increased greatly. Yet, little is known about the long-term effects of treating menopause symptoms. Dr. Haseltine, director of the Center for Population Research, NICHD, reviews the latest research on menopause.

A healthy heart is something most people strive for. On Oct. 27, Dr. Basil Rifkind will discuss "Toward Heart Health: A Cholesterol Update." Dr. Rifkind, chief of the Lipid Metabolism-

Atherogenesis Branch, Division of Heart and Vascular Diseases, NHLBI, will explain what cholesterol means to the human body.

Sexual contact accounts for more than 75 percent of reported cases of AIDS in the United States. On Nov. 10, Dr. Sten Vermund, chief of the Vaccine Trials and Epidemiology Branch, NIAID, talks about "Sexual Transmission of AIDS: Are You at Risk?" Dr. Vermund gives an overview of the AIDS/HIV epidemic and the methods of transmission, including heterosexual contact.

PUBLIC continued on page 5

Government Career Spanned 45 Years

Margaret Gierszewski Retires

By Mickey Hanlon

“It’s the end of a superior career,” according to the Clinical Center’s Outpatient Department staff announcing the retirement of their treasured employee.

Margaret Gierszewski Donahoe, lead admissions clerk, retired on Aug. 31 after a career of government service that spanned more than 45 years.

It was a sightseeing trip to Washington, D.C., that prompted Gierszewski at age 22 to work in the nation’s capital. “I knew after that visit with my brother that I wanted to work in this city,” she says. “I received notice to report to the War Department, so on Nov. 4, 1941, on my mother’s birthday, I took the bus from Missouri with a one-way ticket to Washington.”

“I arrived downtown not knowing anyone and stayed at the YWCA the first night,” says Gierszewski. “I moved to a rooming house on R Street Northwest the next day. Around Thanksgiving my landlady said that there was a gentleman staying upstairs that she would like me to meet.” After a long walk together to Pennsylvania Avenue that cold, November night, Gierszewski began seeing Joe Gierszewski, whom she married three years later.

Gierszewski started her early career with the War Department shortly before World War II as a stenotypist, where she worked in public relations in the magazine and book section. “I still have my old stenotype machine. In those days you provided your own



Margaret Gierszewski and husband Phil Donahoe enjoy her retirement party.

stenotype equipment,” says Gierszewski, who stenotyped conferences for publication in newspapers and magazines. “I even stenotyped General Eisenhower’s conferences,” she continued. Stenotype is a small machine like a typewriter that is used to record speech and is still used today in court reporting.

Leaving the government in the early 1950s to raise her family, she returned to NIH in 1958 as a transcriptionist with the Medical Record Department. “The doctors would dictate the patient’s history, and we would transcribe it,” she recalled. “It was a difficult job because I didn’t know medical terminology.” Later she moved to the reception desk, then to admissions, where she has been lead admissions clerk for the past 10 years.

“We had to do everything on a typewriter, the address, next of

kin, type it all in,” remembers Gierszewski. “I have much appreciation to NIH for the change to computers in the 1970s. I have found them very beneficial in my work.” Her fondest memories of her work at admissions are the patients, many of whom she has gotten to know over the years. “I’ll miss the patients and their relatives who come for treatment. There is a lot of love and healing here,” she says.

Known for her cheerful nature and dedication, Gierszewski found time for other jobs as well. Since 1972, she has worked 2 or 3 days a week as a substitute playground aide at Wyngate Elementary School in Bethesda. She was chairwoman of her parish’s support group for widows and widowers at St. Jane De Chantal, a position she recently resigned after six years. Her enthusiasm is contagious. While on a group trip

Your Memories and Mementos Wanted

Many employees have devoted large chunks of their careers to NIH and have stored a collective treasure trove of anecdotes and mementos about their lives within the Clinical Center. In preparation for the 40th anniversary of the CC's intramural clinical research program next July, Dr. Richard Mandel, public historian, has been contracted to prepare a history of the program. "The Clinical Center has not had a history done before, and now is the time to do so, before more people retire," he says. Dr. Mandel could use your help in gathering materials for displays and is particularly interested in the following:

- photographs, laboratory equipment, or memorabilia
- names and addresses of former coworkers
- individuals willing to share personal reminiscences and mementos, or verify sources
- departmental administrative records, news clippings, letters from people now famous

Dr. Mandel stresses that all items would be on *loan*. "They will be well cared for, and given back at the end of the exhibit," he says. There is a formal process for loaning an item to ensure its protection.

Take this chance to "go down in history"! If you can provide any of the above, please contact Colleen Henrichsen, chief, Clinical Center Communications, at 496-2563, or stop by building 10, room 1C255. ■

Fall's Fairs and Festivals

Family Care Fair and Research Festival

Summer's over, unfortunately, but fall at the Clinical Center brings two popular annual events in which employees can participate. First is the Family Care Fair on Sept. 16, sponsored by the NIH Day Care Committee. Perhaps you have a new baby or an elderly parent who needs extra care. Your concerns are how and where to find such care. From 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. in the Visitor Information Center, the fair will feature information about on- and off-site family-care providers. At 10 a.m., Carol Walsh, from Child Care Connection, and Grace Lebow, from Aging Network Services, will speak in the Lipsett Amphitheater. At 2 p.m., a focus group, open to all, will convene in Lipsett to discuss NIH's existing child-care facilities and how to meet the needs of employees. If last year's large attendance is any measure of the need for such

information, this fair is a valuable addition to the fall calendar.

Another rite of fall is the 6th Annual Research Festival, beginning on Sept. 21. Chaired this year by Dr. Edward Korn, scientific director of the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, the two-day program includes symposia and workshops, and poster sessions to be held in two tents in parking lot 10D. Despite drenching downpours, last year's festival drew record numbers of exhibitors and attendees. Don't miss the chance to meet and chat with fellow researchers about their projects and share what's brewing in your lab. Festivities continue on the 24th and 25th, when the Technical Sales Association Equipment Show takes over the tents. From 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day, a variety of vendors will exhibit their latest equipment. For more information, call 496-1776. ■

PUBLIC continued from page 3

Dr. Ronald Crystal takes over on Nov. 17 discussing the promising new areas of research in treating "Cystic Fibrosis," a fatal, inherited lung disease. Dr. Crystal, chief of the Pulmonary Branch, NHLBI, led a team of researchers who investigated the use of a genetically engineered drug to control cystic fibrosis.

The 1992 series closes with a look at "Gaucher Disease: Restoring Health with Enzyme Replacement" on Nov. 24. Dr. Norman Barton, chief of the clinical investigations section,

Developmental and Metabolic Neurology Branch, NINDS, discusses the effects of Gaucher disease and how replacing the enzyme improves the patient's condition. He also looks at the future direction of research in this field.

All lectures begin at 7 p.m. in the Masur Auditorium and are followed by a 15-minute question-and-answer session. For more information, call Clinical Center Communications at 496-2563. ■

On the QT

Personnel Surveys Walk-In Customers

By Elizabeth Sands

If you visit the Clinical Center personnel office to get assistance, pick up forms, or apply for a job, please take a minute to fill out their customer service survey. As part of their total quality management program, the personnel office wants to know how you rate their service when you visit their office. The staff welcomes your suggestions for improved service and your comments on those aspects of their current service that you like. From information gathered in the survey, the personnel office staff can find the best ways to meet your needs.

The survey grew out of the work of TQM team members Robin Easter, Lyvette Kinsey, Mary Kucevich, Laura McIntyre, Bridget Orloski, and Elizabeth Sands. The Office of Management

Support Services (OMSS) team developed a survey that would be quick for customers to complete but would also yield good information about customer needs and how well the staff was meeting those needs. Other members of the OMSS staff also joined the effort to get the project up and running. Jessica Foster created a design for the survey display board, and Steve Winter developed a computerized system to compile the survey results.

The survey, which began in August, is expected to continue through November. If you would like to participate in the survey on your next visit to the personnel office, you will find the forms located on a gray display board to the left of the reception area in room 1N312. You can drop your completed survey in a box on the

~QT News~

■ The QT Resource Center, located in the Rose Room, announces the arrival of a VCR/monitor with earphones. This equipment is now available for use in the QTRC to preview videos. Please see Lynda Ray for details (10/2C146; 496-7725).

■ The QTRC also boasts almost 100 recently acquired books, articles, cassettes, and videos. Come in and browse or look up answers to problems your team may be having.

display board or send it through the mail. The personnel office would appreciate your thoughts as they strive to provide you with the best possible service. ■

Research Volunteers Needed for Study on Aging

The Laboratory of Neurosciences at the National Institute on Aging is seeking volunteers to participate in a study of the effects of aging on brain functions. Volunteers must be in excellent health, medication free, and without history of major health problems. Men over age 60 and under age 30 are particularly needed. Procedures require approximately 13 hours, and participants may receive a stipend of up to \$300, depending on the actual time involved. For more information call Elizabeth Wagner at 496-4754.

Hiring Freeze Gets Chillier

Assistant Secretary for Health Dr. James O. Mason imposed an NIH-wide hiring freeze, effective Aug. 3. The freeze will be in effect at least until Sept. 30, according to Ray Becich, CC executive officer. Any exemptions to the hiring freeze will need to be cleared by the NIH Director's Office as well as by Dr. Mason's office. The Clinical Center hiring freeze, which has been in effect since January, will also remain in effect until Oct. 1.

Is Your Rent Tax Deductible?

Some employees occupy government-furnished living quarters as a job-related requirement. Such employees may be eligible for an income tax deduction. Employees must meet certain conditions:

1. Lodging must be furnished on the business premises.
2. Lodging is furnished for the employer's convenience, so the employee can do his or her job properly.
3. Employee must accept such lodging as a condition of employment (for example, an employee on 24-hour call). If you think you may qualify, talk to your supervisor, or call Karen Queen, Division of Space and Facility Management, at 402-0874.

Students Shine at Poster Day 1992

We've seen a lot in the media lately about the seemingly inadequate scientific training high school students receive these days. A gloomy picture is often painted of kids who can't do basic math and have never heard of a petri dish. While it is true that fewer young people are choosing careers in science, NIH and the Alcohol, Drug Abuse, and Mental Health Administration sponsor numerous internship programs to help reverse this trend.

Poster Day, held Aug. 7, was the culmination of a summer's worth of hands-on laboratory work for over 200 students and teacher/researchers from across the country who participated in these internships. The Visitor Information Center hummed as exhibitors eagerly, and *easily*, explained the details of their projects to scientists and nonscientists alike. Three of the posters were presented by two high school students and a teacher who worked in Clinical Center departments.

Jason Parris, 17, a student at Sherwood High School in Silver Spring, worked with Dr. Irwin Feuerstein in the Radiology Department "quantitating density values of emphysematous lungs." He says, "My internship was very challenging. I learned a lot about radiology and computers." He's not sure if that is the area he'd like to pursue professionally, though. "I'm exploring many different areas of science," he says.

Stacy Marcus, a recent graduate of John F. Kennedy High School in Silver Spring, worked in Rehabilitation Medicine with Dr.



Stacy Marcus reviews her poster with mentor Dr. Barbara Sonies.

Barbara Sonies, "compiling a data base of normal and abnormal ultrasound and videofluorographic swallowing images." (See June 1992 issue of *CC News* for details on Sonies' research.) Marcus hopes to become a doctor and is headed to Duke University this fall. She says her public school science education prepared her well for her future goals, "but living so close to NIH was a real asset. I learned a lot more here." In fact, she likes working at NIH so much, this is her third

summer here.

According to Dr. Michael Fordis, director of the Office of Education, which coordinates the program, "Poster Day isn't a science fair or a competition; it is a scientific meeting where ideas are freely exchanged. It is an opportunity for NIH to welcome these young researchers into the scientific community as they share the knowledge they have acquired."

For information on the various internships offered, call the Office of Education at 496-2427. ■

RETIRE continued from page 4

to Ocean City she met Phil Donahoe, a widower. "He lost his wife over a year ago and didn't want to live alone," says Gierszewski, whose husband Joe died many years ago. They married in July and recently honeymooned in Bermuda.

Asked why she keeps so active, Gierszewski replied, "We've always been a busy family. My father was the same way, always into some kind of

work. He worked up until the day he died at the age of 86."

Gierszewski is looking forward to spending time with her new husband, an avid golfer, who is teaching her how to play the game. They have plans to head West in the near future and take in the wonder of the Rocky Mountains, the Grand Tetons, and the Black Hills. In the meantime, she plans to remain active in her church work and spend time with their six grandchildren. ■

Graduation Day



Eight registered nurses recently were awarded certificates for successfully completing the 9-month Neuroscience Nurse Internship Program, jointly sponsored by the Clinical Center Nursing Department and the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke. The program combines classroom instruction with direct patient care to train RNs in the demanding specialty of neuroscience. Back row, l to r: Beth Price, clinical nurse educator, Kris Burns, Joan Kyhos, Jennifer Cadieux. Front row, l to r: Jacqueline Lopez, Maureen DeMar, Debra Worden, Lisa Barnhart. Not pictured, Susanne Blaker.

September Calendar of Events

2 Grand Rounds

12 noon-1 p.m. Lipsett Amphitheater.
Early Intervention in Lung Cancer, James Mulshine, M.D., NCI; *Consensus Development Program: Measuring the Impact*, John Ferguson, M.D., Office of the NIH Director.

9 Grand Rounds

12 noon-1 p.m. Lipsett Amphitheater.
Fraud in Science: Lessons from the Past, Robert Martin, M.D., NIDDK; *The Pharmacologic Treatment of Clinical Depression: Predicting Response to Specific Drugs*, Frederick Goodwin, M.D., NIMH.

16 Family Care Fair

11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Exhibits in the Visitor Information Center. At 10 a.m., Lipsett Amphitheater, speakers Carol Walsh and Grace Lebow. At 2 p.m., Lipsett Amphitheater, open forum on existing NIH child-care facilities.

16 Grand Rounds

12 noon-1 p.m. Lipsett Amphitheater.
An Unusual Pheochromocytoma, Harry Keiser, M.D., NHLBI; *The World Health Organization and the Global AIDS Initiative*, Richard J. Davey, M.D., CC.

19 Course: Activity and Exercise Tolerance in Patients with Medical Diagnoses

& 8:30 a.m.- 5 p.m. Saturday
20 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Sunday
Lipsett Amphitheater.
For more information, call 496-4733.

21 NIH Research Festival 1992

9:30 a.m. -5 p.m.
& Two days of symposia, poster sessions (held in tents in parking lot 10D), workshops (various locations), and refreshments. For more information, call 496-1776.

23 Grand Rounds

12 noon-1 p.m. Lipsett Amphitheater. *Vaccines for Influenza*, Brian Murphy, M.D., NIAID; *What the Clinician/Clinical Investigator Should Know About Computing/Computer Viruses at NIH*, David Rodbard, M.D., DCRT.

24 Technical Sales Association Scientific Equipment Show

& A variety of vendors will exhibit their wares in tents in parking lot 10D.

25

30 Clinical Staff Conference

12 noon - 1:30 p.m. Lipsett Amphitheater. *Syndromes of Glucocorticoid Resistance*, George Chrousos, M.D., NICHD, Moderator.